

Section on Taxation

On Sept. 12, the Federal Bar Association's Section on Taxation, in partnership with the New York University School of Law, invited law students and tax attorneys to a discussion with Hon. David Gustafson of the U.S. Tax Court, in which the speaker shared his perspectives on the practice of tax law. The program was moderated by Brian Power of Mayer Brown LLP and Timothy Mulvey of White & Case LLP.

Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section

The FBA's Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section sponsored a Brown Bag Luncheon on Sept. 13, at the Department of Transportation's Headquarters West Building. The luncheon featured Cheryl T. Rose, senior attorney, Water Enforcement Division, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Environmental Protection Agency, and Jim Pates, assistant chief counsel for pipeline safety law, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of

Transportation. The speakers shared their perspectives on pipeline incidents, including EPA and DOT/PHMSA jurisdictional boundaries and regulatory authority regarding pipeline spills and enforcement as well as areas of collaboration between the two agencies.

Government Contracts Section

The FBA and the Public Contracting Institute hosted a networking reception with the D.C. chapter of the National Contract Management Association and the George Washington University's Law School chapter of NCMA on Thursday, Sept. 13. The reception had a great turnout and participants said they enjoyed networking with one another.

The Government Contracts Section also hosted an audio conference on Wednesday, Sept. 21. The speaker, Paul Barchie, assistant general counsel, L-3 Corporation, gave a presentation entitled "International Sales Representatives: Compliance and Management Issues." Matthew McGrath, of McGrath Law Group LLC, was the moderator for this discus-

sion. About 40 individuals called in to this audio discussion with Barchie, who spoke on his experience and gave helpful insights on key areas of compliance, typical areas of regulatory focus, and practical approaches to compliance. The topics Barchie touched on included U.S. and foreign law relating to improper payments, reporting requirements under various regulations, and cost allowability issues under U.S. rules. **TFL**

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and needs of public and private federal practitioners, members of the federal judiciary, and the public they serve. In 1954, the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association was chartered as a charitable organization to serve similar purposes. In 2002, certain FBA and Foundation leaders established the Fellows of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. Since the program's inception, more than 180 FBA members who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to the FBA have been invited to become Fellows and enjoy the value of giving.

On Sept. 19, 2011, at a reception held at the U.S. Supreme Court, Justice Elena Kagan was inducted as an Honorary Life Fellow of the Foundation. More than 85 FBA members from numerous chapters, sections, and divisions attended the ceremony and had the opportunity to speak personally with the justice. (Justice Kagan requested the individual meetings in lieu of formal remarks.) Justice Sonia Sotomayor, who was inducted as an Honorary Life Fellow of the Foundation in December 2009, stopped by to wish her colleague the best.

Last spring, through the efforts of our Younger Lawyers Division, all Federal Bar Association members had the opportunity to be admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. Approximately 90 FBA members took advantage of this event, and they and their guests enjoyed the ceremony as well as a chance to meet with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. When we say the FBA gives you access to the judiciary, we are talking about judges at all levels. This too is value. No other bar association offers such a benefit.

And as I begin my year as president of the Federal Bar Association, I want to offer you some additional value. Let me know what you are looking for in a bar association. What do you need and what do you want? Please share your thoughts and ideas as to how your FBA officers and directors can make the association more relevant, more fun, and more valuable to you. I look forward to hearing from you. **TFL**

Few C. Bomchill